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Broadcatching

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Broadcatching is the downloading of digital content that has been made available over the Internet using RSS.

The general idea is to use an automated mechanism to aggregate various web feeds and download content for viewing or presentation purposes.

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History [edit]

Fen Labalme describes coining the term 'broadcatch' in 1983.[1] It refers to an automated agent that aggregates and filters content from multiple sources for presentation to an individual user.

Stewart Brand later used the term independently in his 1987 book *The Media Lab: Inventing the Future at MIT* to describe artificial-intelligence technology (in one application) to assist content selection ('hunting') and viewing ('grazing' or 'browsing').[2]

RSS+BitTorrent [edit]

In December 2003 Steve Gillmor described combining RSS and BitTorrent peer-to-peer file sharing as a method for subscribing to an ongoing series of media files, in an article for Ziff-Davis.[3] Scott Raymond described its specific application for gathering scheduled programming in an article entitled *Broadcatching with BitTorrent*.[4] The combination of these technologies allows a computer connected to the Internet to act like a digital video recorder (DVR) such as TiVo connected to cable.

One of the first practical implementations was released in 2004. Programmer Andrew Grumet announced the release of a beta version of an RSS and BitTorrent integration tool for the Radio Userland news aggregator here .

Today, content can be delivered to large groups at low cost through RSS-and-BitTorrent-based broadcatching. Large groups can be notified of new content through RSS, and bulky content can be distributed inexpensively through BitTorrent. Recipients subscribe to an *RSS feed* through which a content provider notifies recipients' software of new content, and that software uses BitTorrent to retrieve the content. Tags, be they applied by one user or many users, are also used to topically drive syndication of torrents.

Uses [edit]

Although broadcatching can be classified as a method independent of technology and implementation, today broadcatching finds much use with Internet television and Internet radio (also called podcasting or IPradio).

Broadcatching is often used in situations where multicasting may be used but is cost prohibitive.

Broadcatching television broadcasts [edit]

Perhaps the most popular use of broadcatching is using a BitTorrent client with inbuilt RSS support to automatically download television episodes[*citation needed*] as they are 'released'—internet users capture the broadcast as it is transmitted, then transcode it (typically after removing advertisements) and send it on to others.

The practice has become quite popular, particularly in countries such as Australia and the United Kingdom where television programs produced in the US tend to be aired more than six months after US broadcasts, if at all.

As of 2010, there has been no legal action taken against sharers of TV episodes (compared to distribution of copyrighted movies and music which the MPAA and RIAA have taken a strong stance against).

Measurement Study [edit]

Zhang *et al.* have evaluated Broadcatching using PlanetLab testbed in 2008. About 200 PlanetLab nodes all over the world were used in their study.[5] Their results have demonstrated Broadcatching can greatly improve the performance of the BitTorrent system. Through this mechanism, every node is able to complete the file downing much faster.

Clients [edit]

- BitLord
- BitTorrent 6
- Deluge
- KTorrent[6]
- qBittorrent
- Torrent Swapper
- TorrentFlux
- Tribler
- µTorrent
- Vuze
- ZyXEL Network Storage Appliance (NSA) series: NSA210 / NSA310 / NSA-220 PLUS / NSA221 / NSA320

Players with broadcatching functions [edit]

- Miro
- µTorrent

See also [edit]

- Internet television
- Internet radio
- Podcast

References [edit]

1. ^ Broadcatch Definition company website, (2001 archive)
2. ^ - The Media Lab Review. L. McGuff. *Beyond Cyberpunk*, Gareth Branwyn, ed. , 1991. Retrieved 2007-04-22
3. ^ Gillmor, Steve. BitTorrent and RSS Create Disruptive Revolution *EWeek.com,* December 13, 2003. Retrieved on 2007-04-22.
4. ^ Raymond, Scott: Broadcatching with BitTorrent . *scottraymond.net*: 2003-12-16.
5. ^ Zengbin Zhang, Yuan Lin, Yang Chen, Yongqiang Xiong, Jacky Shen, Hongqiang Liu, Beixing Deng, Xing Li (2009). "Experimental Study of Broadcatching in BitTorrent". *Proc. of 6th IEEE Consumer Communications and Networking Conference (CCNC'09).*
6. ^ KTorrent's syndication plugin

External links [edit]

- Broadcatching, March 6, 2004
- First broadcatching application
- Broadcatching Audio RSS Feeds

v· t· e·	BitTorrent
Companies	BitTorrent, Inc. · Vuze, Inc. ·
People	Eric Klinker · Bram Cohen · Ashwin Navin · Ross Cohen ·
Technology	**Broadcatching** · Distributed hash tables · DNA · index · Peer exchange · Protocol encryption · Super-seeding · Tracker · Vocabulary · Torrent file · µTP ·
Clients (comparison, usage share)	BitTorrent (original client) · BitComet · BitSpirit · BitTornado · Deluge · FrostWire · KTorrent · LimeWire · Miro · MLDonkey · qBittorrent · rTorrent · Shareaza · Transmission · Tribler · µTorrent · Vuze (formerly Azureus) · Xunlei · libtorrent (library) ·
Tracker software (comparison)	opentracker · PeerTracker · XBT Tracker · EasyTracker ·
Open Trackers	OpenBitTorrent · PublicBitTorrent ·
Search engines (comparison)	BTDigg · Burnbit · Demonoid · EZTV · KickassTorrents · Mininova · Seedpeer · The Pirate Bay · Torrentz · yourBittorrent · YouTorrent · What.CD · BitSnoop ·
Defunct websites	isoHunt · FlixFlux · BTJunkie · LokiTorrent · OiNK · TorrentSpy · Suprnova · BitGamer · d2 ·

Related topics	aXXo · BitTorrent Open Source License · MPAA · Peer Media Technologies · TorrentFreak · Slyck.com ·

v· t· e·		**Web syndication**
History: Blogging · Podcasting · Video blogging · Web syndication technology ·		
Types		Art · Bloggernacle · Classical music · Corporate · Dream diary · Edublog · Electronic journal · Fake · Family · Fashion · Food · Health · Law · Lifelog · Litblog · MP3 · News · Photoblog · Police · Political · Prayer · Project · Reverse · Travel · Warblog ·
Technology	**General**	BitTorrent · Feed URI scheme ·
	Features	Linkback · Permalink · Ping · Pingback · Reblogging · Refback · Rollback · Trackback ·
	Mechanism	Conversation threading · Geotagging · RSS enclosure · Synchronization ·
	Memetics	Atom feed · Data feed · Photofeed · Product feed · RDF feed · Web feed ·
	RSS	GeoRSS · MRSS · RSS TV ·
	Social	Livemark · Mashup · · pooling · Referencing · RSS editor · RSS tracking · Streaming media ·
	Standard	OML · OPML · RSS Advisory Board— Usenet: .net · World Wide Web + (-let) · XBEL · XOXO ·
Form		Audio podcast · Enhanced podcast · Mobilecast · Narrowcast · Peercast · Screencast · Slidecasting · Videocast · Web series ·
		Anonymous blogging · Collaborative blog · Columnist · Instant messaging · Liveblogging · Microblog · Mobile blogging · Roblog · Spam blog · Video blogging ·
Media	**Alternative media**	Carnivals · Fiction · Journalism (Citizen · Database) · Online diary · Search engines · Sideblog · Software · Web directory ·
	Micromedia	Aggregation (News · Poll · Review · Search · Video) · Atom · AtomPub · **Broadcatching** · Hashtag · NewsML (1 · G2) · Social communication · Social software · Web Slice ·
	Related	Blogosphere · Escribitionist · Glossary of blogging · Pay per click · Posting style · Slashdot effect · Spam in blogs · Uses of podcasting ·

v· t· e·		**News aggregators**
Client software	**Standalone**	Akregator · BlogBridge · BottomFeeder · Cooliris · FeedDemon · Feedreader · Genieo · Google Currents · Liferea · NetNewsWire · NewsAccess · NewsFire · Pulse · RSS Bandit · RSSOwl · Sage · Seesmic · TweetDeck · WebFetch ·
	Web browsers	*AOL Explorer* · Avant Browser · Camino · iCab · *Flock* · Internet Explorer · K-Meleon · Kazehakase · Maxthon · Firefox · *Netscape Browser* · *Netscape Navigator 9* · Opera · OmniWeb · Safari · SeaMonkey · Shiira · Sleipnir · Tencent Traveler · Web ·
	Email clients	Claws Mail · Gnus · IBM Lotus Notes · Mail · Microsoft Outlook · Mozilla Thunderbird · *Netscape Messenger 9* · Opera Mail · Pegasus Mail · The Bat! · Windows Live Mail · Zimbra ·
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	RSS+BitTorrent	BitLord · BitTorrent 6 · Deluge · Miro · Opera Mail · qBittorrent · TorrentFlux · Tribler · µTorrent · Vuze ·
Related articles		Comparison of feed aggregators · RSS enclosure ·
Italics indicate discontinued software.		

Categories: Internet television | File sharing | RSS | BitTorrent

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